

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 02223 211022Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 EB-08 OES-09 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /057 W
-----007327 220409Z /11
R 210833Z JUL 78
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1432
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 2223

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEWT, ENRG, CH
SUBJ: WILDCATting IN THE TARIM BASIN?

1. DRESSER INDUSTRIES REPRESENTATIVES IN PEKING ARE MAKING PROPOSALS FOR A \$14 MILLION DRILLING RIG, \$3 MILLION OF TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT AND EQUIPMENT FOR A 100 MAN CAMP. THEY HAVE BEEN TOLD BY MACHIMPEX THAT THIS EQUIPMENT WILL BE USED IN EXPLORATION OPERATIONS IN THE TAKLA MAKAN DESERT OF THE TARIM BASIN IN SINKIANG PROVINCE. CHINESE SOURCES HAVE TOLD DRESSER THAT THE EQUIPMENT WILL BE TAKEN FIRST TO URUMCHI BY RAIL AND THEN OVER 1,000 KILOMETERS SOUTH BY ROAD AND SUBSEQUENTLY SEVERAL HUNDRED KILOMETERS FURTHER THROUGH DESERT SANDS. THE TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT IS DESIGNED FOR USE ON SAND. THE DRILLING WILL BE STRICTLY EXPLORATORY AND NOT CONNECTED WITH ANY EXISTING OILFIELD, THE CHINESE HAVE SAID.

2. COMMENT: THE TARIM BASIN IS BELIEVED TO BE OIL BEARING, BUT EXCEPT FOR THE TASH-ARIK FIELD ON ITS NORTHERN FRINGE, WE KNOW OF NO PRODUCING AREA IN IT.

3. THIS INFORMATION AND ITS SOURCE ARE SENSITIVE AND SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED OUTSIDE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. WOODCOCK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPLORATORY DRILLING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PEKING02223
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780301-0516
Format: TEL
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780733/aaaabbwt.tel
Line Count: 47
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1fe5146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1926121
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WILDCATting IN THE TARIM BASIN?
TAGS: EEWT, ENRG, CH, DRESSER INDUSTRIES
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1fe5146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014